

Ground Maintenance Policy

Target Group: All Staff and management, Support Services Staff, Neighbours and external Stakeholders including contractors	Version: 6	Issue Date: 23 April 2025
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Printed copies are for reference only. Please refer to the electronic copy for the latest
Version

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1. Introduction

This policy outlines the necessary measures to maintain the hospital grounds in an attractive, safe, and sustainable manner. It aims to benefit patients, visitors, staff, and Sisters by providing a well-kept environment.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the hospital grounds are kept attractive, safe, and sustainable. This benefits everyone, including patients, visitors, staff, and Sisters, and ensures the Trustees fulfil their duty of care to all visitors, authorised or otherwise.

3. Objectives of this Policy or Procedure

- **Ensure Safety:** To maintain the hospital grounds in a manner that ensures the safety of all users, including patients, visitors, staff, and Sisters.
- **Promote Sustainability:** To implement sustainable practices in the maintenance of the grounds, ensuring minimal environmental impact.
- **Enhance Aesthetics:** To keep the grounds attractive and well-maintained, contributing to a pleasant environment for all.
- **Allocate Responsibilities:** To clearly define the roles and responsibilities of staff and contractors involved in grounds maintenance.
- **Compliance and Reporting:** To ensure compliance with relevant regulations and standards, and to establish a system for regular reporting and review of maintenance activities.
- **Engage Stakeholders:** To involve patients and other stakeholders in gardening activities, promoting a sense of community and well-being.
- **Maintain Infrastructure:** To ensure that all infrastructure, including trees, roads, paths, car parks, and external lighting, is regularly inspected and maintained.

4. Policy Statement

The hospital is committed to maintaining its grounds in an attractive, safe, and sustainable manner, benefiting patients, visitors, staff, and Sisters. The leadership team acknowledges the Trustees' duty of care (as property owners) to all visitors. This policy details the measures and responsibilities required to ensure the proper upkeep of the hospital grounds, fostering a well-kept environment that enhances the overall experience and safety for everyone.

5. Scope

This policy applies to all aspects of grounds maintenance within the hospital premises, including but not limited to:

- **Trees:** Management and maintenance of trees to ensure safety and aesthetic value.
- **Roads:** Regular assessment and maintenance of roads within the hospital grounds.
- **Paths:** Inspection and upkeep of pathways to ensure safe passage.
- **Car Parks:** Maintenance of car parks, including surface wear, lighting, and safety.
- **Grass Cutting:** Regular mowing and disposal of grass cuttings.

- **Garden Maintenance:** Upkeep of gardens, including pruning, leaf disposal, and maintenance of water features.
- **Patient Involvement:** Coordination of patient participation in gardening activities.
- **External Lighting:** Regular testing and maintenance of external lighting.
- **Furniture:** Inspection and maintenance of garden furniture.
- **Access Control:** Management of access to hospital grounds to prevent unauthorised use.

This policy is applicable to all staff, contractors, and volunteers involved in the maintenance and management of the hospital grounds.

6. Responsibilities

- **Chief Executive:**
 - Ensure the allocation of resources to implement this policy.
 - Oversee the implementation of the policy.
 - Report to the Trustees on any issues arising that require their attention.
- **Director of Operations:**
 - Supervise the routine work of grounds maintenance contractors.
 - Procure additional services required on an occasional basis.
 - Report regularly to the Leadership Team on issues or concerns arising from grounds maintenance.
 - Prepare and review specifications for grass cutting and garden maintenance.
 - Ensure compliance with safety standards and disposal procedures.
- **Maintenance Officers:**
 - Support the Director of Operations in supervising routine grounds maintenance.
 - Carry out minor maintenance tasks, including snow and ice clearance, and minor road and path repairs.
 - Maintain water features and Central pond area
 - Maintain all gardening equipment including that used for snow and ice clearance.
 - Keep an inventory of garden benches and inspect them annually.
 - Ensure that entrance and directional signage is in good condition and cleaned as required.
 - Assist with the maintenance of external lighting and garden furniture.
 - Carry out regular site inspections reporting findings to the Director of Operations.
- **Contractors:**
 - Perform grounds maintenance tasks as specified by the Director of Operations.
 - Ensure compliance with safety standards and possess appropriate qualifications and insurance.
- **All caregivers:**
 - Report any use of the grounds by the public or neighbours that causes damage or nuisance to the Director of Operations.
 - Report any incidents, including near misses and any causes for concern in the grounds.

7. Definitions

- **Grounds Maintenance:** The process of keeping the hospital grounds in good condition, including tasks such as grass cutting, garden maintenance, tree care, and path and road upkeep.
- **Contractors:** External service providers hired to perform specific grounds maintenance tasks as specified by the Director of Operations.
- **Health and Safety Committee:** A group responsible for overseeing health and safety standards within the hospital grounds, including the inspection and maintenance of garden furniture.
- **Arboriculture Work:** The practice of maintaining and managing trees, including tasks such as pruning, removal, and health assessments.
- **Gully Cleaning:** The process of removing debris and blockages from road gullies to ensure proper drainage.
- **Snow and Ice Clearance:** The removal of snow and ice from paths, roads, and parking areas to ensure safe access during winter conditions.
- **Risk Assessment:** The process of identifying potential hazards and evaluating the risks associated with them to ensure safety.
- **PPM Programme:** Planned Preventive Maintenance programme, a schedule of regular maintenance tasks to prevent equipment and infrastructure from failing.
- **PLACE Programme:** Patient-Led Assessments of the Care Environment, a programme that involves patients in assessing the quality of the care environment.

8. Policy or Procedure Implementation

- **Trees:**
 - Maintain a tree register to facilitate periodic inspections, focusing on trees around the perimeter of the site and bordering roads and paths.
 - Engage qualified persons to establish an effective inspection routine, carry out inspections, and provide reports on the need for work.
 - Engage contractors with appropriate qualifications and insurance to undertake arboriculture work.
- **Roads:**
 - Conduct annual assessments for safety regarding surface wear, potholes, and other hazards.
 - Hospital staff may carry out minor maintenance issues, while road contractors handle major work.
 - Provide advance notice to neighbours obliged to contribute to the upkeep of the main drive before significant expenditure.
 - Ensure there is no public right of way within the hospital grounds and respect shared access with neighbours.
 - Conduct quarterly electrical maintenance checks on roadway lighting and perform repairs or replacements as needed.

- Carry out snow and ice clearance as required, with Maintenance Officers and contractor assistance if necessary.
- Maintain suitable equipment for snow and ice clearance and ensure adequate stocks of salt before winter.
- Arrange annual gully cleaning or as deemed necessary by the Director of Operations.
- **Paths:**
 - Conduct annual assessments for safety regarding surface wear, holes, and other hazards.
 - Maintenance Officers may carry out minor maintenance issues, while road contractors handle major work.
 - Keep a record of inspections and arrange for maintenance or improvement, including cutting back vegetation to maintain clear passage and lighting.
- **Car Parks:**
 - Conduct annual assessments for safety regarding surface wear, potholes, lighting, and other hazards.
 - Maintenance Officers may carry out minor maintenance issues, while specialist contractors handle major work.
- **Garden Maintenance:**
 - The Director of Operations prepares and reviews the specification and ensures contractor compliance, particularly regarding garden machinery and operator safety, safety of other persons, and disposal of leaves, pruning, and hedge cutting. (Appendix 3)
 - One contractor carries out all grounds maintenance, including internal areas such as the Senses Garden.
 - Maintain water features and water butts.
 - The Director of Operations arranges summer watering if required.
- **Grass Cutting:**
 - The Director of Operations prepares and reviews the specification and ensures contractor compliance, particularly regarding operator safety, safety of other persons, and disposal of grass cuttings. (Appendix 2)
- **External Lighting:**
 - Conduct quarterly testing and maintenance by an electrical contractor.
- **Furniture in Grounds:**
 - The Director of Operations keeps an inventory of garden benches and a record of inspections. All repairs and renovations are logged.
- **Access Control:**
 - Ensure the hospital grounds remain private property and prevent public rights of way from becoming established through long usage.
 - Staff should report any use by the public or neighbours that causes damage or nuisance to the Director of Operations.
 - Regular site inspections take into consideration any fly tipping which is reported to the local council for enforcement action.
 - Inspect entrance and directional signage for good condition and clean twice a year per the PPM programme or as required.

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9. Regulatory Requirements/ References

The regulatory requirements for grounds maintenance policies in the UK typically include the following:

- **Health and Safety at Work Act 1974:**
 - Employers must ensure the health, safety, and welfare of employees and others who may be affected by their activities. This includes maintaining safe grounds and outdoor areas.
- **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999:**
 - Requires employers to conduct risk assessments and implement measures to control risks. This includes assessing and managing risks associated with grounds maintenance.
- **Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992:**
 - Employers must ensure that the workplace, including outdoor areas, is maintained in a safe condition. This includes keeping paths, roads, and parking areas clear of hazards such as leaves, snow, and ice.
- **Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002:**
 - Employers must control exposure to hazardous substances, which may include chemicals used in grounds maintenance.
- **Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER):**
 - Employers must ensure that work equipment, including gardening tools and machinery, is safe to use and properly maintained.
- **Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992:**
 - Employers must provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to employees involved in grounds maintenance.
- **Environmental Protection Act 1990:**
 - Requires proper disposal of waste, including garden waste, to prevent harm to the environment.
- **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981:**
 - Protects wildlife and their habitats, which must be considered during grounds maintenance activities.
- **Local Authority Bylaws:**
 - Specific local regulations may apply to grounds maintenance, such as noise control and the use of pesticides.

These regulations ensure that grounds maintenance activities are conducted safely, sustainably, and in compliance with legal standards.

10. Evaluation Measures

To ensure the effectiveness of the grounds maintenance policy, the following evaluation measures are implemented:

- **Regular Inspections:**
 - Conduct scheduled inspections of the grounds, including trees, roads, paths, car parks, and gardens, to assess their condition and identify any maintenance needs.
 - Document inspection results and take corrective actions as necessary.
- **Compliance Audits:**
 - Perform audits to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations, environmental standards, and the specific requirements outlined in the policy.
 - Review audit findings and implement improvements where needed.
- **Stakeholder Feedback:**
 - Gather feedback from patients, visitors, staff, and Sisters regarding the condition and appearance of the grounds.
 - Use surveys, suggestion boxes, and meetings to collect input and address any concerns raised.
- **Contractor Performance Reviews:**
 - Evaluate the performance of contractors engaged in grounds maintenance tasks. Assess their adherence to specifications, quality of work, and compliance with safety standards.
 - Provide feedback to contractors and make adjustments to contracts as necessary.
- **Risk Assessments:**
 - Conduct regular risk assessments to identify potential hazards related to grounds maintenance activities.
 - Implement measures to mitigate identified risks and review the effectiveness of these measures periodically.
- **Incident Reporting and Analysis:**
 - Maintain a system for reporting and analysing incidents related to grounds maintenance, such as accidents, near-misses, and equipment failures.
 - Investigate incidents to determine root causes and implement preventive measures.
- **Environmental Impact Assessments:**
 - Evaluate the environmental impact of grounds maintenance practices, including waste disposal, use of chemicals, and water consumption.
 - Implement sustainable practices and monitor their effectiveness in reducing environmental impact.
- **Review and Update Policy:**
 - Review the grounds maintenance policy every 36 months or as needed to ensure it remains relevant and effective.
 - Update the policy based on feedback, audit findings, and changes in regulations or best practices.

- **Benchmarking:**
 - Compare the hospital's grounds maintenance practices and performance against industry standards and best practices.
 - Identify areas for improvement and implement changes to align with best practices.

11. Related Documents

- **Maintenance Policy:**
 - Outlines the overall approach to maintaining the hospital's infrastructure, including buildings and grounds.
- **Health and Safety Policy:**
 - Details the hospital's commitment to ensuring the health and safety of all staff, patients, and visitors, including procedures relevant to grounds maintenance.
- **Sustainability Policy:**
 - Describes the hospital's efforts to minimise environmental impact through sustainable practices, which can include grounds maintenance activities.
- **Hospital Tree Survey and associated management plan (Appendix 5)**
 - A tree management plan is a strategy to ensure the health, safety, and proper maintenance of trees within a specific area.
- **National Tree Safety Group – Common Sense Risk Management of Trees-** Guidance on trees and public Safety in the UK for owners, Managers and advisers.
- **Forestry Commission Practice Guide – Managing Deadwood in forests and woodlands**
- **Risk Assessment Procedures:**
 - Provides guidelines for conducting risk assessments to identify and mitigate potential hazards associated with grounds maintenance.
- **Control of Contractors Policy:**
 - Specifies the procedures for selecting, engaging, and managing contractors, ensuring they meet the required standards for safety and performance.
- **Preventive Maintenance Schedule:**
 - A detailed schedule outlining regular maintenance tasks, including frequency and responsible parties, to ensure the grounds are kept in good condition.
- **Management of Extreme Weather Policy:**
 - Describes the actions to be taken in the event of emergencies, such as severe weather conditions, to maintain safe and accessible grounds.
- **Waste Management Policy:**
 - Outlines procedures for the proper disposal of waste, including garden waste, to comply with environmental regulations.
- **Equipment Maintenance Logs:**
 - Records of maintenance and inspections for equipment used in grounds maintenance, ensuring they are kept in safe working condition.
- **Training Records:**
 - Documentation of training provided to staff and contractors on grounds maintenance procedures, safety standards, and the use of equipment.

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12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Equality impact Assessment (EIA) Tool

To be considered and where judged appropriate, completed and attached to any policy document when submitted to the appropriate committee for consideration and approval.

Policy Title	Ground Maintenance
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		Yes/No	Comments
	Does the policy/guidance affect one group less or more favourably than another on the basis of:		
	Race	No	
	Gender reassignment	No	
	Marriage & civil partnership	No	
	Pregnancy & maternity	No	
	Ethnic origins (including gypsies and travelers)	No	
	Nationality	No	
	Sex	No	
	Culture	No	
	Religion or belief	No	
	Sexual orientation	No	
	Age	No	
	Disability- both mental and physical impairments	No	
2.	Is there any evidence that some groups are affected differently?	No	
3.	Is the impact of the policy/guidance likely to be negative?	No	
4.	If so can the impact be avoided?	N/A	

5.	What alternatives are there to achieving the policy/guidance without the impact?	N/A	
6.	Can we reduce the impact by taking different action?	N/A	
7.	If you have identified potential discrimination, are any exceptions valid, legal and/or justifiable?	N/A	

Appendix 2 GRASS MAINTENANCE

<u>Site</u>	<u>Operation</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1. Edge of Staff Car park	Mow & Strim	Fortnightly	
2. Lawn between Church & rear boundary	Mow	Weekly	
3. Banks North of Church by path	Strim	Monthly	
4. Strip between Convent ramp & patio	Mow	Fortnightly	
5. Lawn in front of Hall	Mow	Weekly	
6. Orchard- <i>This is a part of Woodland Management Scheme. Not to be mown until 1st July except to maintain 'path' beside tress to prevent bracken regrowth</i>	Mow	X 2 per year	
6a. Path in Orchard	Mow	Fortnightly	
7. Cemetery	Mow & Strim	Fortnightly	
8. Front of Convent (2 areas) also strip by drive lights	Mow	Weekly	
9. Front and end of Church	Mow	Weekly	
10. grassed areas around Hospital Building	Mow	Weekly	

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Rear of Nurse's Home Building Edge of Visitor Car park Triangle in front of main hospital Area to the side of Hydrotherapy Pool Woodland trail			
11 Side of hospital /St Hugh's	Mow	Fortnightly	
12 Woodland edge	Strim	Monthly	
13 Sides of Drive	Mow	Fortnightly	Sides only, NOT to mow between pine trees
14 Sister's Garden (in front of Church) Lawn	Mow	Fortnightly	

Specification for Grass Cutting

Grass cutting is to be undertaken with regard to the proper maintenance of the grassed surface, the use of the particular area, and the overall appearance of the grounds.

The contractor will be required to accept the following conditions:

Grass Cutting Schedule:

Grass cutting will commence in April and continue on a regular basis until the end of October.

Frequency of Cuts:

The frequency of cuts is to be maintained generally according to the schedule but using a pragmatic approach to avoid unnecessary cutting. If weather conditions prevent work or make grass cutting unnecessary, alterations to the normal schedule are to be discussed with the Director of Operations.

Safety and Well-being:

Grass cutting is to be carried out with the safety and well-being of hospital patients, visitors, and staff in mind. No cutting is to be undertaken in the near vicinity of buildings before 9 am or after 5 pm. The contractor's staff must take all reasonable safety precautions and comply with Health & Safety legislation.

The contractor must provide evidence of adequate employer's and public liability insurance cover and must indemnify the hospital against any claims for damage resulting from the actions of the contractor's workforce.

Sub-letting:

The contract may not be sub-let in whole or part without the hospital's written authority.

Termination of Contract:

The contract may be terminated by either party giving notice in writing of at least one month, except that the contract may be immediately terminated by the hospital in the event of the contractor failing to provide services as agreed.

Work Execution:

The work shall be undertaken in such a way as to leave roads, paths, and areas close to buildings reasonably free of grass trimmings. All collected cuttings shall be disposed of in agreed sites. Grass and weeds growing beside paths, along edges of roads, or around solid objects (e.g., light bollards or Calvary at the front of the hospital) shall be regularly cleared, strimmed, or clipped as appropriate.

Appendix 3- Grounds maintenance Specification

<u>Item</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Grass cutting	Weekly within growing season	According to specification (attached)
Kerbs and Road Gullies	Weekly	Removal of weeds and debris from all Kerbs and road gullies
Maintenance of all beds and borders around hospital buildings	Throughout the year	Weed removal Removal of dead foliage Replanting as necessary
Maintenance of inner courtyard areas (x2) Sense's Garden The staff dining room courtyard	Throughout the year	Weed removal Removal of dead plants Trimming of shrubs and bushes Maintenance of plants in beds and planters It is important that these areas are kept tidy as they are visible to all
Maintenance of shrubs in beds and borders around hospital	Throughout the year	Keep shrubs and bushes trimmed and tidy
Paving and gravel around buildings	Throughout the year	Removal of weeds and debris from all paved or gravel areas around hospital, Periodic jet wash of paviers
Jet wash of paviers in central courtyard	Once a year	Clean paviers on terrace and in senses' garden to manufacturer's instructions
Deck scrub of inner courtyard Decking	Once a year	Scrub decking to remove growth of algae.

Area around St Hugh's	Throughout the year	Jet wash paviers. Keep bushes trimmed and beds tidy
Leaf Clearance	Throughout the year but extra attention during autumn months	All external areas to include both Inner Courtyards
Beds and Borders around Convent and Shottermill Hall Building (including all patio tubs and mount at rear of building)	Throughout the year	Weed removal Removal of dead foliage Replanting as necessary Leaf Clearance
Sister's Garden in Front of Church	Throughout the year	Periodic Removal of Brambles and other weeds
Area behind St Joseph's	Throughout the year	Removal of weeds and debris from all paved or gravel areas around hospital Periodic jet wash of paviers Removal of Leaves
Area around the Woodland trail	Throughout the year	Keep grass around the trail kept cut and area in front of viewpoint Keep area tidy. Ensure that brambles are kept cut back from the path.

Appendix 4- Leaves, Snow and Ice Clearance Procedure

Introduction

The purpose of this procedure is to document the areas of responsibility and actions to be taken when preparing for the autumn and winter seasons during periods of leaf fall and snow and ice.

During periods of leaf fall and snow and ice, there is a higher risk of personal injury to staff and visitors to the hospital through slips, trips, and falls.

In accordance with the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992, the hospital has a responsibility, so far as is reasonably practicable, to keep its paths, roadways, and parking areas in a safe condition, reasonably clear of leaves, snow, and ice, and to minimise the risk to staff and visitors as they move around the estate.

Objective

1. Immediate Goals:

- Ensure access for essential deliveries, such as medications and feeds.
- Maintain continuation of shift patterns to ensure adequate and safe staff levels in accordance with hospital policy.
- Eliminate hazards and risks associated with travel between buildings and vehicle operation, thereby preventing injuries to patients and staff.

2. Long-term Goals:

- Minimise long-term disruption to the services provided by the hospital.
- Prevent damage to infrastructure, including both material and utilities.
- Facilitate the continued maintenance of infrastructure.

Procedures

Prioritisation of Areas

The clearance of paths, roadways, and parking areas shall be prioritised according to a risk assessment. Priority shall be given to the main drive, roadways leading to parking areas, and paths, including steps and access slopes, leading to and between buildings (see map at the end of the document for priority).

Monitoring of Weather Forecasts

Weather forecasts shall be monitored by the Director of Operations, particularly between November and March, for advanced indications of adverse weather conditions likely to affect the estate. Severe weather warnings shall be circulated to enable adequate preparation plans to be implemented.

Pre-treatment of Critical Areas

When weather forecasts predict snowfall or icy conditions, designated areas will normally be treated with salt and grit.

Timescale and Repeated/Re-gritting

Snow and ice shall be cleared as soon as reasonably practicable and maintained clear throughout the day wherever possible.

Order of Clearance

Roadways will be cleared in order of priority (see map) from the main entrances inwards, unless the frost and ice are specifically isolated to one area. To the best of all staff abilities, this action will be completed as soon as practical on any given day; however, this cannot be guaranteed depending on staff availability and the severity of weather conditions. Paths, roadways, and parking areas will continue to be treated and cleared as required and wherever possible throughout the day as required.

Adequate resources, including salt/grit stocks and clearing/spreading equipment, shall be established and coordinated by the Director of Operations in readiness for the anticipated adverse weather season.

Despite the high level of service provided in achieving the objectives of this procedure, there can be no guarantees that all paths and roadways will always be completely clear of leaves, ice, or snow for various reasons, including:

- Further leaves may fall shortly after a pathway has been cleared.
- The time it takes for salt to cause the snow to melt.
- Rain can wash salt off paths and roadways, leaving them prone to re-icing.
- In periods of very severe weather, below -8°C, salt treatment of paths and roadways will become ineffective.
- If frost follows rain, a rapid fall in temperature can occur, and isolated areas could re-ice due to the time salt treatment becomes effective.

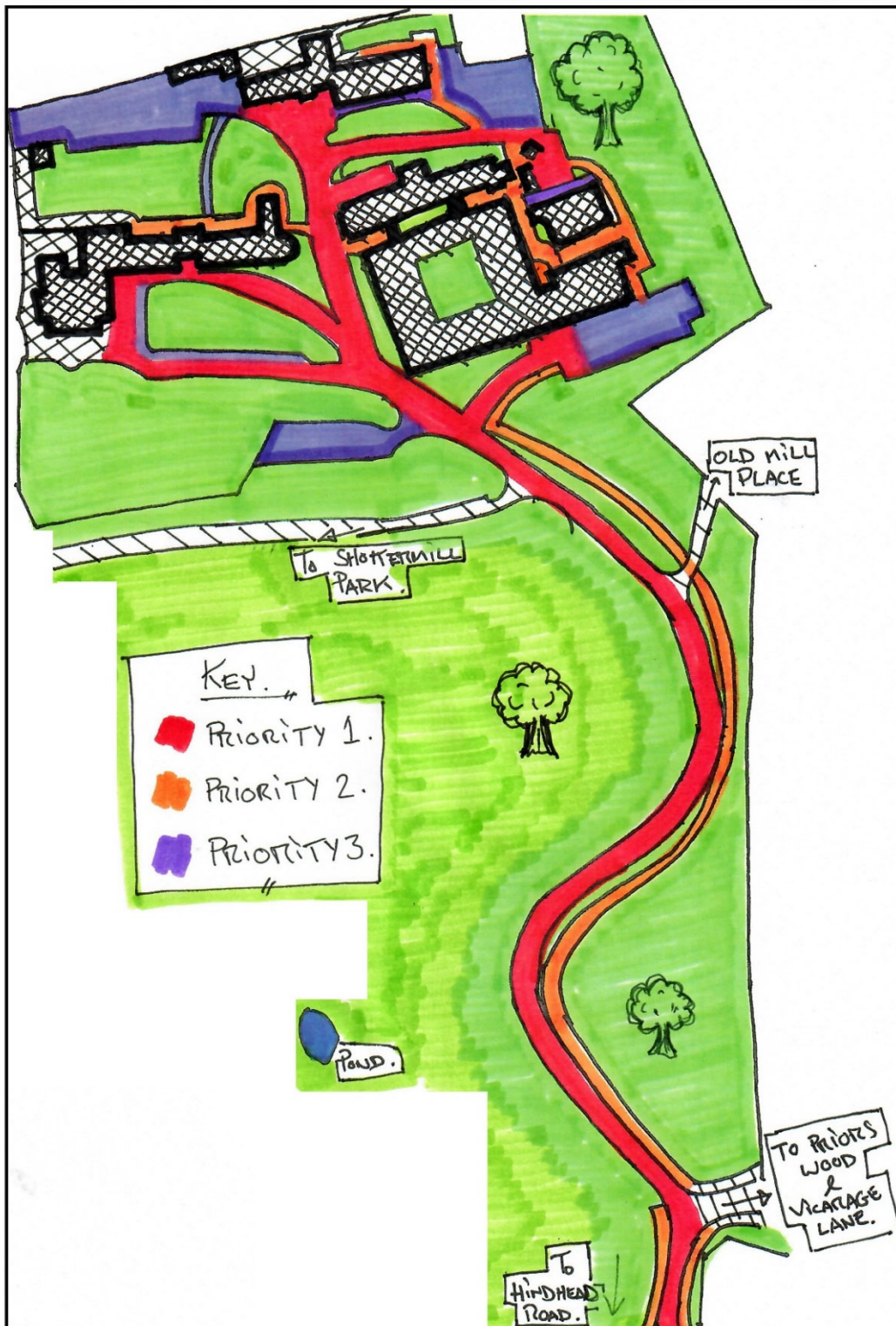
Closure of Pathways/Roads

In the event of very adverse conditions, the Director of Operations may arrange for barriers or similar devices to be deployed on certain routes to prevent them from being used until they can be made safe.

Coordination of Snow/Ice Clearance Out of Hours

If there is a heavy fall of snow overnight, the Night Sister shall contact the Duty Caretaker to advise them of the situation. The Duty Caretaker will then make the necessary arrangements for the clearance of the main drive.

HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL - SNOW CLEARANCE ORDER OF PRIORITY



Appendix 5 -Hospital Tree Survey and Associated Management Plan

Purpose: The Hospital Tree Survey and associated management plan aim to ensure the safety, health, and aesthetic value of the trees within the hospital grounds. This plan is designed to protect and manage the tree population, ensuring they contribute positively to the environment and the well-being of patients, visitors, and staff.

Tree Survey:

Tree Register:

Maintain a comprehensive tree register that includes details of all trees on the hospital grounds.

The register will focus on trees that present the greatest risk, including those around the perimeter of the site and bordering roads and paths.

Periodic Inspections:

Conduct regular inspections of the trees to assess their health, structural condition, and potential risks.

Engage qualified arborists to carry out these inspections and provide detailed reports on the findings.

Tree Categorisation:

Categorise trees based on their health, structural condition, and risk level.

Highlight trees of significant value to ensure they are suitably protected and managed.

Identify trees that may require removal due to poor health or safety concerns.

Management Plan:

Inspection Routine:

Establish an effective inspection routine to monitor the condition of the trees regularly.

Schedule inspections at appropriate intervals, considering factors such as tree species, age, and location.

Maintenance and Care:

Implement a maintenance schedule that includes pruning, and pest management to promote tree health and longevity.

Engage contractors with appropriate qualifications and insurance to undertake arboriculture work, ensuring all activities comply with safety standards.

Risk Management:

Identify and mitigate potential risks associated with trees, such as falling branches or root damage to infrastructure.

Develop and implement risk management strategies to address identified hazards.

Tree Protection:

Protect trees during construction or maintenance activities by implementing measures such as root protection zones and tree fencing.

Ensure that any work near trees is carried out in a manner that minimises damage to the trees and their root systems.

Tree Planting and Replacement:

Plan for the planting of new trees to replace those that are removed or to enhance the landscape.

Select appropriate tree species that are well-suited to the local environment and contribute to biodiversity.

Educate stakeholders on the benefits of trees and the importance of proper tree care.

Documentation and Reporting:

Maintain detailed records of all tree inspections, maintenance activities, and any incidents related to trees.

Provide regular reports to the Leadership Team, Advisory Committee and Trustees on the status of the tree population and any significant issues.

Conclusion: The Hospital Tree Survey and associated management plan are essential components of the hospital's commitment to maintaining a safe, attractive, and sustainable environment. By implementing this plan, the hospital ensures the health and safety of its trees, contributing to the overall well-being of all who use the hospital grounds.